

Building a Podcast Library



Project Title	Building a Podcast Library
Project Summary	Help us find podcasts for foreign languages. Since the launch of Serial over two years ago, podcasting has exploded as a communication medium. We need your help to harness that creativity for foreign language learning, to support our diplomats learning languages for overseas assignments.
Country	United States
Agency	Department of State
DoS Office	FSI/SLS/CSD
Post	N/A
Section	N/A
Number of Interns	1

Project Description

Since the launch of Serial over two years ago, podcasting has exploded as a communication medium. We need your help to harness that creativity for foreign language learning. In this project, you will:

1) create a taxonomy of podcasts based on the show format for popular podcasts in English, so that we have a vocabulary for talking about podcasts. (Example: this podcast is an investigative journalism podcast like Serial, or a fiction podcast like Crimetown, or a news podcast like Science Fridays, etc)

2) Identify podcasts for language learning in a variety of languages, including but not limited to Spanish, French, Chinese, Arabic, Russian, Thai, German, Hindi, Portuguese, Turkish, and curate a list that includes the podcast format, title, description, number of episodes, average rating, and where it can be found.

3) Identify podcasts that are recorded in a foreign language, including but not limited to Spanish, French, Chinese, Arabic, Russian, Thai, German, Hindi, Portuguese, Turkish. These podcasts should be chosen based on content that might be of interest to Americans and/or Foreign Service Officers learning that language. The end product will be a curated list of these podcasts that includes the podcast format, title, description, number of episodes, average rating, and where it can be found.

We don't expect you to speak all the languages we are looking for but we need someone who:

- loves languages
- has learned a foreign language and remembers what it is like to learn one
- is familiar with podcasts
- creative enough to find the required information through crowdsourcing, Google Translate and other means

-can analyze the information they find and can synthesize it into a matrix and summary report

Desired Skills Interests

Additional Information

You must have your own computer and mobile device, and access to podcasting services such as Stitcher, Overdrive, or iTunes. You are not required to know all the languages researched, but you must be creative and analytical enough to uncover information about podcasts in languages you do not know.

Language Requirements

None